Charles A. Marmor, II Primary Examiner Art Unit: 3736

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responsive to the Amendment filed September 9, 2004. The Examiner acknowledges the amendments to claims 16-21 and 24-27, as well as the cancellation of claims 22 and 23. Claims 16-21 and 24-27 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 2. Claims 16-21 and 24-27 are allowed over the prior art of record.
- 3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

No prior art of record teach or fairly suggest a mentation test apparatus, as claimed by Applicant, where an image control means randomly distributes and displays a given number of targets on a display screen to be pointed to by a subject touching a transparent touch panel overlaid on the display screen according to a prescribed order and erases targets that have been pointed to in a correct order, a time counter measures search response times required by the subject; and a processing means calculates the mentation of the subject based on the search response times measured by the time counter and the sequential order.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Application/Control Number: 10/656,449 Page 3

Art Unit: 3736

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles A. Marmor, II whose telephone number is (703) 305-3521. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (7:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Max Hindenburg can be reached on (703) 308-3130. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Charles A. Marmor, II Primary Examiner Art Unit 3736

cam October 5, 2004